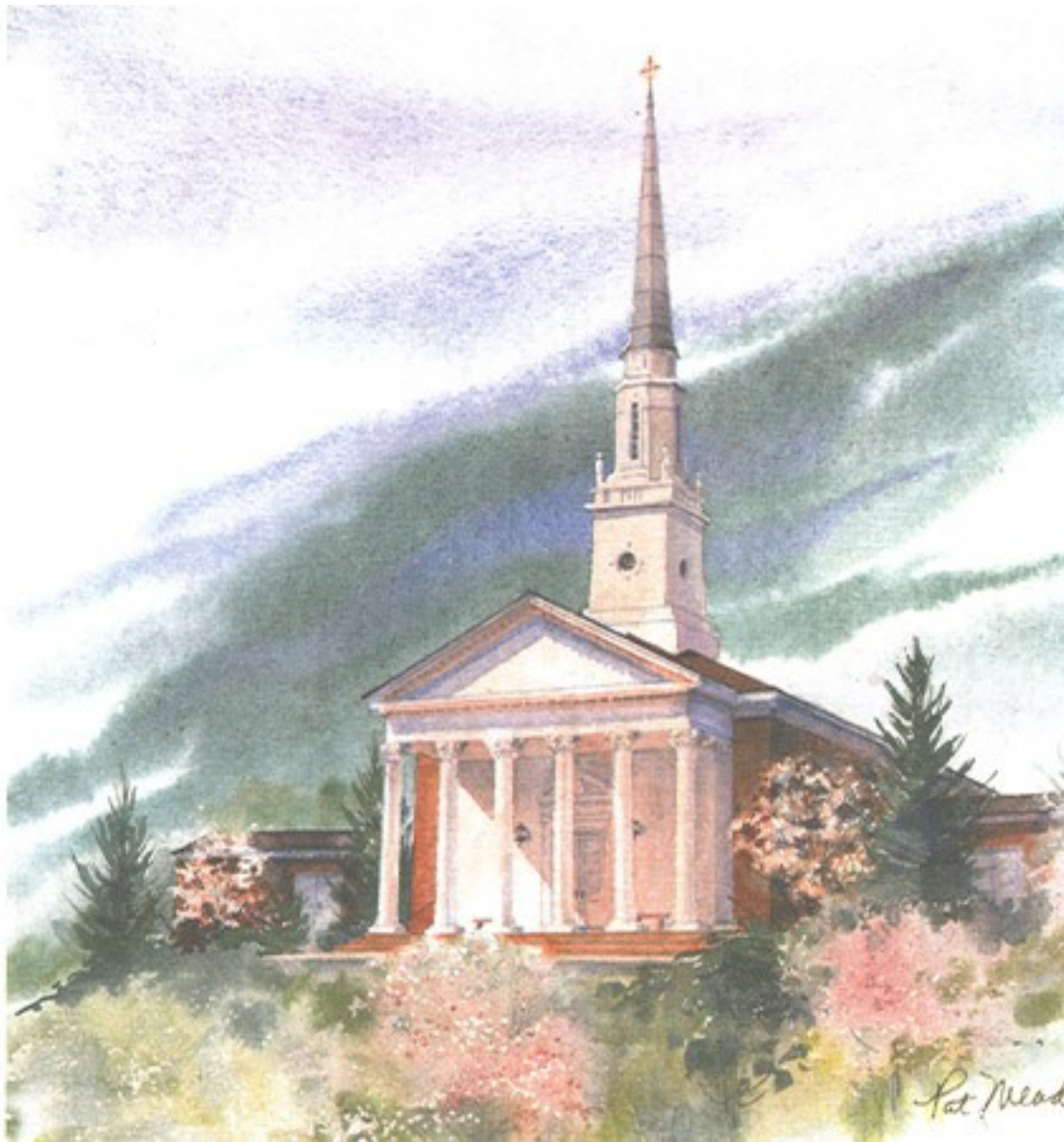


The Presbyterian Church of Barrington

Reference Guide for Guests,
Prospective Members, and New Members

2024



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Introduction

Welcome to the Presbyterian Church of Barrington. This introductory guidebook has been designed to introduce our church to guests, prospective members, and new members. If you would like further information about anything in this guidebook, please call the church office (847-381-0975) to be referred to members who can best help or refer to our website www.pcbarrington.org

Location - Our church was founded over fifty years ago on a beautiful five-acre site in Barrington Hills. We are part of The Presbytery of Chicago (Presbyterian Church USA) which has nearly 30,000 members in more than 84 diverse, dynamic church congregations and worshipping fellowships throughout Chicago and the surrounding area.

Contact

- Address: 6 Brinker Road Barrington Hills, IL 60010
- Office Phone: 847-381-0975
- Office Hours: Monday-Thursday, 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
- Website: www.pcbarrington.org

Worship service - We have worship service each Sunday:10 am in person and livestream, with extra services on Christmas and Easter.

Our Mission - We are a compassionate community of faith, following the teachings of Jesus Christ, affirming His grace, sharing God's love and serving all those in need.

Our Vision As faithful and caring members of the Presbyterian Church of Barrington, we will welcome all to join with us to worship and serve God.

- We will challenge each other to become better disciples of Jesus Christ as we celebrate our faith, share it with all and invite others to join us in our common journey.
- We will encourage and equip all to become contributing ministers while providing service opportunities for all age groups.
- As we strive to expand our presence, we will develop and accept opportunities to join with others in our community, from local to global, to serve those in need.
- As stewards of God's resources we will have church facilities and grounds, which are accessible, functional, pleasing and safe for all who enter.

Meet our pastors and music director

Transitional Pastor David Ezekiel – Pastor David's passion is congregational health and vitality. He has decades of experience leading and working with a variety of congregations and organizations in transition. David desires for his churches to discover their place of most potential and opportunity. He is relentless in his efforts for the congregations he coaches to develop a purpose, goals, and a plan. One of the defining scriptures for his life and ministry is Jeremiah 29:11-14, which says in part: "For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope..."

His ministry experiences have been teaching at the seminary level, working for the denomination, serving as a consultant and conflict mediator, and pastoring a variety of congregations – Presbyterian, Episcopalian, Independent, United Church of Christ, and Baptist.

David is married to Janet, and they love to travel. They have lots of stories: sleeping out under the stars on the ice of Antarctica is a favorite one. He loves to cook and try new foods. (Sushi is the exception – he grew up where raw fish is called "bait"). David is a religious devotee of college football, especially the Alabama Crimson Tide. (He will point out that the University is referenced in the Old Testament book of Ezekiel – of course).

He is not a patient driver. Always has a good quip, joke, or story. Loves dogs. Loves good scotch. And loves good coffee.

Associate Pastor Jae Cho – Jae graduated from University of Washington where he attained a B.A. in Communications with a minor in Entrepreneurship. And after working for a few years sensing God's call, he enrolled in Regent College at Vancouver, British Columbia graduating with a Master of Divinity.

Jae has served youth, college, young adults, and adult ministry for over 12 years. He also participated in mission trips all over the world: Tijuana, Mexico, Hong Kong, Beijing, China, Tibet, and South Korea.

Jae loves spending time with his family - wife and two sons. Jae loves to talk to people about his faith journey and has an eye for beauty in all of God's creation including art, design, and culture. When he has free time, he loves watching and playing all kinds of sports from basketball, ping pong, tennis, and golf. He also loves watching YouTube videos and connecting with people on social media.

Director of Music, Kirsten Hedegaard – As a committed church musician, Kirsten believes that music is an integral part of worship, supporting the liturgy and gospel through diverse repertoire choices and thoughtful preparation by the volunteers and guest musicians. In addition to conducting the Sanctuary and Bell Choirs at PCB, she also oversees the Choral and Organ Scholar program, as well as the Music on the Hill Concert Series (MOTH).

In addition to her role as director of music at PCB, Kirsten is currently Director of Choral Activities at Loyola University and Director of The EcoVoice Project, a non-profit organization that engages music and the arts for climate change education and action. She holds a B.M. from Northwestern University, a M.A. from the University of California, where she was conducting assistant to Paul Hillier, and a D.M.A. from the University of Illinois, where she studied choral conducting with Andrew Megill and orchestral conducting with Donald Schleicher. She is married to conductor Andrew Lewis and has three boys: George, William, and Henrik.

Worship experience

Worship at PCB is carefully planned by Pastors and our Worship Committee.

Worship planning – The Session, through its Worship Committee, manages our overall worship experience throughout the seasons of the Christian year. Pastor David develops the sermon outline about three months in advance and shares it with our music director Kirsten Hedegaard. This gives her the time that she needs to select the hymns and music that best fit with the message and find the right outside supporting singers and musicians to support our organist and our choirs to make beautiful music together.

Messages - Pastor David and Pastor Jae develop sermons about topics that they feel are important for us. Some are contemporary and challenging (as Christ challenged the rabbis in the temple); others are based upon what David feels that we need as a congregation. Each sermon provides a clear message about what the biblical text said and meant then, and what the implications are for today. We always learn something new and develop a new perspective each Sunday.

Seasons and volunteers - Our church changes visually with the calendar and the seasons. Dedicated volunteers change the draping colors behind the cross and decorate for Pentecost, Christmas, Easter, and the fall harvest season. They arrange weekly sanctuary flowers, print and stuff Bulletins, usher, read the liturgy, and serve communion.

Children's Programs

We offer classes and programs that are led by our Children's Ministry Committee, who are volunteer teachers and leaders. With this program, we seek to migrate each of our children through the sixteen years from nursery to mission and confirmation.

- Nursery care – This is professionally staffed every Sunday for babies and toddlers.
- Children and Youth K-5
- VBS every summer
- Middle school & High School
- Confirmation
- Youth Mission Trip – each summer

Adult Programs

Adult education programs – We are all ministers of our faith. Christ has entrusted us with the responsibility to practice Christianity now, here and everywhere through a deep understanding of His teachings as they apply in our world, 2000 years later. We presently offer six adult education opportunities at varying dates and times to make it easy for everybody to participate in one or more programs.

- Theology on Zoom moderated by Robert Riley. Held Wednesdays at 7:00 pm on Zoom.
- Men's Bible Study. Held Fridays at 8:00 am, on Zoom.
- Women's Bible Study - GTIF (Growing Together in Faith) moderated by Jill Minner. Held the third Tuesday of the Month at 7 pm, on Zoom.
- Young Adult Fellowship moderated by Pastor Jae. Join us for fun and engaging events that are planned and offered periodically throughout the year. You can check the church calendar and website for details about the events coming soon.

Men's fellowship group – On the third Thursday of each month except December, men of our church meet for dinner, typically in a member's home. This is primarily a social group, with the host often providing a discussion topic. New members find that it is a good forum to meet others in a casual setting.

Music opportunities

PCB offers a wide range of quality participation and listening music programs under the Leadership of Kirsten Hedegaard, who is a unique talent in choir, conducting, and singing. Kirsten also taps into the Chicago area musical talent pool to supplement our home-grown choirs to enhance the musical experience.

Choir – Our choir performs 9 months of the year. During the summer months we often invite individual guest artists to assure a high-quality musical experience.

- Bell Choir
- Music on the Hill – Two to three times per year Kirsten Hedegaard offers a unique concert program that is open to the public.
- The Gaudete Brass ensemble often plays at Music on the Hill, and during our Sunday 10 am service.

Opportunities to serve

Stephen Ministry - Stephen Ministry is a model for those of us who want to commit our time and talent to the service of others in need. Our congregation's Stephen Ministry equips lay people to provide one-to-one Christian care to people in our church and community who are experiencing difficulties in their lives.

Youth mission trip – Every year, youth of confirmation age take a week-long service mission trip. In addition to the mission work we do, we also meet, understand, bond, and live with people in disadvantaged places and conditions. Our youth fund their trip through their hard work in various fund-raisers throughout the year. After their return, they typically lead a Sunday church service to explain their experience personally and through a video.

Participation in service programs beyond our church – Members of our church regularly participate in the service programs that are externally organized. The list below is representative of our service.

- FISH Food Pantry – Stocking shelves, projects, and providing food donations.
- Habitat for Humanity – Participating in local Habitat for Humanity projects.
- Meals on wheels – Members of our church regularly deliver meals to shut-ins on a scheduled route basis.

Mission

The following local charitable organizations are some of those supported by The Presbyterian Church of Barrington and its various groups.

- Barrington Community Meal
- Christopher House, including a family gift program at Christmas. Each year, about two-dozen needy families receive Christmas presents and funds for a Christmas dinner.
- Crop Walk
- Feed My Starving Children
- FISH Food Pantry of Barrington and Carpentersville
- Habitat for Humanity
- Good News Jail Ministry
- Meals on Wheels
- World Relief Chicagoland – Refugees
- 5 K Run
- Build Project

Additionally, our church through its Hope Fund can provide specific confidential financial assistance to local families in extreme financial need.

Congregational life

Throughout the year we offer events for our congregation and guests to enjoy each other's company and make new friends. The events listed below are some of our ongoing events.

Advent dinner – This is a family potluck meal at Advent to celebrate the season.

Card party – This is a social adult mixer with a lot of fun. No card playing skills required.

Lenten Breakfast – This is a spiritual gathering to celebrate the season. The day begins with a short worship / reflection followed by a breakfast in Fellowship Hall

Church picnic – Each summer we have a picnic with games and events for children. Bring your game chairs or blankets for the grass and enjoy a summer day of fun.

Our church's organization

Three groups of ordained members manage the most critical parts of the church.

Session – Our church is governed by the Session who are elected by the membership. Session committees include new members, hospitality and fellowship, Christian life and education, mission, personnel, worship, stewardship and finance, nominating, and communications and outreach.

Trustees – The board of trustees manages the church's physical property under the direction of the Session.

Deacons – Our deacons are divided into geographic parishes. Each deacon is responsible for caring for his or her parishioners.

Supporting the church

Stewardship – Stewardship is using all our God given resources to accomplish God's purpose here on earth. All that we have and all that we are, is entrusted to us by God. Stewardship is the way we give back to God with our time, money and natural gifts. Our church relies on the generous support of its members. We are deeply appreciative of those who regularly support the work of the church financially and with their time and talents.

This information pamphlet has been designed to give background of who we are. Please don't hesitate to reach out to us with any questions you may have. Please let us know how we can develop your faith and support you and the ones you love.

Presbyterian Church of Barrington

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